



AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please add or amend the claims to read as follows, and cancel without prejudice or disclaimer to resubmission in a divisional or continuation application claims indicated as cancelled:

1 – 28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) A method of transferring telecommunication transmissions comprising:

using a PCI bus connector to establish a connection between a first rear I/O card and a second front card or second rear card, upon receiving a failure indication associated with a first front card connected via a through connection to said first rear card [when no failure indication is received].

30. (Cancelled) [A method of transferring telecommunication transmissions comprising:

connecting a rear I/O card to a set of backplane traces associated with a PCI bus of said backplane upon receiving a failure indication associated with a front card connected via a through connection to said rear card when no failure indication is received.]

31. (Currently Amended) A method of transferring telecommunication transmissions comprising:

allocating at least a portion of a PCI bus for communications between a rear card and a backup front or backup rear card upon receiving a failure indication associated with a front card connected via a through connection to said rear card [when no failure indication is received].

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32. (Currently Amended) A rear card of a device for transferring telecommunication transmissions, comprising:

an isolation relay adapted to route incoming signals from a rear card to a backup front or backup rear card through at least a portion of a PCI bus upon receiving a failure indication associated with a backup card currently connected via a through connection to said rear card [when no failure indication is received].

33. (Currently Amended) A device for transferring telecommunication transmissions, comprising:

a control circuit, which upon receiving an indication signal associated with a first front card currently connected via a through connection to a rear card [when no failure indication is received] is adapted to redirect communications from said rear card to a second front card or a second rear card over at least a portion of a PCI bus.

34. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 33, wherein the indication is received over at least a portion of said PCI bus.

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Please add the following new claim:

35. (New) A method of transferring telecommunication transmissions comprising: using a PCI bus connector to select an alternative route between a first rear card and a redundant front card, directly or via a second rear card, using 'buss connections' and/or 'through connections' along said alternative route.

Respectfully submitted,



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